APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/925,156	08/08/2001	Stephen Clark Purcell	BEL-019	3102

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EXAMINER
KNOLL, CLIFFORD H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2112	

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DATE MAILED: 02/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _08 August 2001_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application)
since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet.
37 CFR 1.78.

    a)☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific
reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wellen

(US 2002/0075884).

Regarding claim 1, Wellen discloses identifying first and second portions of a first

message in slices, and identifying first and second portions of a second message in the

slices (e.g., paragraph [0029], "schedule function"), selecting independently in each

slice the same messages based on priorities, and sending the portions of the selected

message to the network resource (e.g., paragraph [0031], "take these priorities into

account").

Regarding claim 2, Wellen also discloses priorities based on ages (e.g.,

paragraph [0030], "VOQ").

Regarding claim 3, Wellen also discloses dividing each message to create the

first and second portions and sending the portions to respective slices (e.g., paragraph

[0029]).

Regarding claim 4, Wellen also discloses a memory resource (e.g., paragraph [0030], "virtual ports").

Regarding claim 5, Wellen also discloses the network resource is a processor (e.g., paragraph [0046]).

Regarding claim 6, Wellen also discloses a crossbar (e.g., paragraph [0052], "separate (optical) cross connect").

Regarding claim 7, Wellen discloses identifying first and second portions of a first message in slices, and identifying first and second portions of a second message in the slices (e.g., paragraph [0029], "schedule function"), selecting independently in each slice the same messages based on priorities, and sending the portions of the selected message to the network resource (e.g., paragraph [0031], "take these priorities into account").

Regarding claim 8, Wellen also discloses a memory resource (e.g., paragraph [0030], "virtual ports").

Regarding claim 9, Wellen also discloses the network resource is a processor (e.g., paragraph [0046]).

Regarding claim 10, Wellen also discloses a crossbar (e.g., paragraph [0052], "separate (optical) cross connect").

Regarding claim 11, Wellen discloses means for identifying first and second portions of a first message in slices, and for identifying first and second portions of a second message in the slices (e.g., paragraph [0029], "schedule function"), means for selecting independently in each slice the same messages based on priorities, and

means for sending the portions of the selected message to the network resource (e.g., paragraph [0031], "take these priorities into account").

Regarding claim 12, Wellen also discloses priorities are based on ages (e.g., paragraph [0030], "VOQ").

Regarding claim 13, Wellen also discloses means for dividing each message to create the first and second portions and sending the portions to respective slices (e.g., paragraph [0029]).

Regarding claim 14, Wellen also discloses a memory resource (e.g., paragraph [0030], "virtual ports").

Regarding claim 15, Wellen also discloses the network resource is a processor (e.g., paragraph [0046]).

Regarding claim 16, Wellen also discloses a crossbar (e.g., paragraph [0052], "separate (optical) cross connect").

Regarding claim 17, Wellen discloses means for identifying first and second portions of a first message in slices, and for identifying first and second portions of a second message in the slices (e.g., paragraph [0029], "schedule function"), means for selecting independently in each slice the same messages based on priorities, and means for sending the portions of the selected message to the network resource (e.g., paragraph [0031], "take these priorities into account").

Regarding claim 18, Wellen also discloses a memory resource (e.g., paragraph [0030], "virtual ports").

Regarding claim 19, Wellen also discloses the network resource is a processor

(e.g., paragraph [0046]).

Regarding claim 20, Wellen also discloses a crossbar (e.g., paragraph [0052],

"separate (optical) cross connect").

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chiussi

(US 5689506).

Regarding claim 1, Chiussi discloses identifying first and second portions of a

first message in slices, and identifying first and second portions of a second message in

the slices (e.g., col. 8, lines 52-61), selecting independently in each slice the same

messages based on priorities, and sending the portions of the selected message to the

network resource (e.g., col. 9, lines 56-60).

Regarding claim 2, Chiussi also discloses priorities based on ages (e.g., col. 5,

lines 5-8).

Regarding claim 3, Chiussi also discloses dividing each message to create the

first and second portions and sending the portions to respective slices (e.g., col. 8, lines

52-64).

Regarding claim 4, Chiussi also discloses a memory resource (e.g., col. 4, line 65).

Regarding claim 5, Chiussi also discloses the network resource is a processor (e.g., col. 9, lines 46-50).

Regarding claim 6, Chiussi also discloses a crossbar (e.g., col. 3, lines 62-63).

Regarding claim 7, Chiussi discloses identifying first and second portions of a first message in slices, and identifying first and second portions of a second message in the slices (e.g., col. 8, lines 52-61), selecting independently in each slice the same messages based on priorities, and sending the portions of the selected message to the network resource (e.g., col. 9, lines 56-60).

Regarding claim 8, Chiussi also discloses a memory resource (e.g., col. 4, line 65).

Regarding claim 9, Chiussi also discloses the network resource is a processor (e.g., col. 9, lines 46-50).

Regarding claim 10, Chiussi also discloses a crossbar (e.g., col. 3, lines 62-63).

Regarding claim 11, Chiussi discloses means for identifying first and second portions of a first message in slices, and for identifying first and second portions of a second message in the slices (e.g., col. 8, lines 52-61), means for selecting independently in each slice the same messages based on priorities, and means for sending the portions of the selected message to the network resource (e.g., col. 9, lines 56-60).

Regarding claim 12, Chiussi also discloses priorities are based on ages (e.g., col. 5, lines 5-8).

Regarding claim 13, Chiussi also discloses means for dividing each message to create the first and second portions and sending the portions to respective slices (e.g., col. 8, lines 52-64).

Regarding claim 14, Chiussi also discloses a memory resource (e.g., col. 4, line 65).

Regarding claim 15, Chiussi also discloses the network resource is a processor (e.g., col. 9, lines 46-50).

Regarding claim 16, Chiussi also discloses a crossbar (e.g., col. 3, lines 62-63).

Regarding claim 17, Chiussi discloses means for identifying first and second portions of a first message in slices, and for identifying first and second portions of a second message in the slices (e.g., col. 8, lines 52-61), means for selecting independently in each slice the same messages based on priorities, and means for sending the portions of the selected message to the network resource (e.g., col. 9, lines 56-60).

Regarding claim 18, Chiussi also discloses a memory resource (e.g., col. 4, line 65).

Regarding claim 19, Chiussi also discloses the network resource is a processor (e.g., col. 4, line 65).

Regarding claim 20, Chiussi also discloses a crossbar (e.g., col. 3, lines 62-63).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kim (US 5581777) discloses parallel routing in the context of a memory system architecture, likewise Pincus (US 6282583).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clifford H Knoll whose telephone number is 703-305-8656. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 0630-1500.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark H Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-2100.

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XUAN M. THAI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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